

# Magnates Plan to Force War Against Fraternity—Lid Is Off in Two Weeks

## IN TWO WEEKS LID PROMISES TO JUMP

New Contracts, at Lower Terms, Will Chase Those Not Yet Signed.

### BAN JOHNSON IN EARNEST

Griffen May Be Hit Hard, as Only Four Players Are Now in Line.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

Two weeks from today the lid will be off in baseball.

If contracts recently tendered major league players are not received signed by that time, new ones carrying lower terms will be forwarded to the rebellious players.

In cases where players evince a willingness to sign, but not at the figure offered, negotiations will begin and no new contract will be offered until they cease.

All magnates and managers in the American and National Leagues have been advised by Ban Johnson and John Tener to make as few comments as possible upon the possible action of the two leagues.

Leagues In Earnest.

The two big leagues are in deadly earnest about winning this fight against Fultz's organization. They do not mean to rest on their oars until February 20 and have the fraternity declares war. They will do it themselves in two weeks from today, unless all signs are wrong.

Ban Johnson is in control of the situation. When the players threatened to strike in the Kraft case, Charlie Ebbets spoiled everything by ending the squabble with a cash consideration. This was directly against the wishes of Johnson and made possible the conditions of today.

Now the American League chieftain has the support of both big leagues, and he means business. No club will lose much more than \$20,000 if compelled to close its gates next season. This is practically nothing. But plans call for baseball played by somebody next summer.

May Break Backbone.

Though inclined to scoff at the Players' Fraternity the major league magnates are planning a move calculated to break the backbone of the opposition.

Fultz's pronouncements are to the effect that the big league players are engaged in the altruistic work of seeking to better the conditions surrounding the poor little minor league players. There is no doubt a sudden ending of the Fraternity when its members, out on a strike, discover those same minor league players filling their places.

The magnates are inclined to believe that high class minor league players will jump at a chance to play in the big leagues at salaries far in advance of what they can get in the minors. If the strike does begin on scheduled time, that is, the beginning of the training season, minor league players will be drafted by all major league clubs needing them, and the minor leagues will not open their gates for a year.

Griffen May Be Hit.

If the strike is declared by Dave Fultz, and the Griffen obey the order, the local team may be hard hit, as only four players are now in line. Johnson, Miller, Foster, and Morgan are working on contracts, but through the 1917 season. Manager Griffen refuses to admit any fear of the coming events, though.

"I have been receiving letters from my players for several days," said he today, "and my players, while not sending in any signed contracts, are writing that they don't want to commit themselves either way at this time. I respect their situation but not giving out their names."

"From what some of my players write me and from what I was told by others I met in Chicago, on my trip home from Montana, I am firmly convinced that the players never signed any contract, but force through what Dave Fultz now demands."

Against the Clause.

"My players, with those on the other clubs, were very anxious to get the disability clause in the old contract that's all. When they put their names to those pledges it was to have that clause eliminated. This has been done. But the players accepted the new contract. But the players are sure of my own, were not informed that Fultz would use those signed pledges to further his own ends. When they wake up to find themselves left high and dry by the receding tide, they'll quickly hop aboard the band wagon."

Manager Griffen will not make public any plans he may have in mind, in case the Washington players go on strike. He simply laughs and takes another long pull on his cheroot.

Representative major league players are beginning to be heard from all over the country. Most of them believe talk of a strike.

"Rabbit" Maranville, of the Braves, the representative of the Fraternity in his club, says he'll never strike, "no matter what Dave Fultz orders."

Roger Peckinpaugh, captain of the Yankees, calls the demands of the fraternity "trivial." Peckinpaugh is now under contract, and says he will respect that in every detail.

Many Not Members.

Many of the big leagues' best players are not members of the fraternity. The entire Philadelphia American League club is in this position, the players being satisfied to do business with Connie Mack without waving clubs over his head.

About half of the Cleveland players are members of the fraternity. The White Sox have only a few members. The same thing applies to the Browns, too.

So far as known, every member of the Washington club of last season is a fraternity member. Of course, this does not apply to rookies tried out toward the close of the season. John Henry worked long and hard getting the players into line, for few had any enthusiasm.

## WANTS DUAL MEET WITH NAVY'S TEAM

Catholic University Seeks Indoor Games at Annapolis. Other Engagements.

Catholic University is dickering with the United States Naval Academy for an indoor dual track meet for March 10.

The Brooklanders want to send a team to the Academy to engage the Middles on the boards.

Coach Jimmy Mulligan says the affair has been talked of for some time and that there is every chance of the meeting being arranged.

The Middles have several outdoor engagements but few indoor meets. In getting the meeting both teams would be benefited for later out-of-doors contests.

Meets Plentiful.

Indoor and outdoor meets will be plentiful this season. The Georgetown games are the first to go on the card for the winter. The Hilltoppers will be held in Convention Hall February 17.

Four half-century dashes are included in the program, one each for novices and scholastic athletes; an open sprint and a championship race for South Atlantic I. A. A. runners.

The half-mile run, 50-yard hurdle, running high jump, and 16-pound shot-put for South Atlantic I. A. A. titles will also be contested.

In addition to the sprint, novices will have a 60-yard run, while there are six open events in all, including the spectacular pole vault and hop, step and jump, the latter a new event in Washington indoor games. Two special events are added for schools.

Hopkins Open Up.

Johns Hopkins opens up with a meet in Baltimore in the Fifth Regiment Armory on February 24. The Fifth Regiment and Johns Hopkins have combined again to hold their annual affair which will be well attended by Washington athletes.

Following the Hopkins games come the George Washington University meet to be held in Convention Hall March 2. The Hatchettes will draw the usual number of South Atlantic events, and will stage several relays and events for the schoolboys.

March 3 finds the big college teams gathered at Philadelphia for the indoor intercollegiate. This meet promises to be one of the largest events of the indoor season. A week later the Meadowbrook games will be held in Philadelphia.

Out Doors Thereafter.

April 11 will mark the opening of the outdoor season. The University of Virginia has scheduled a dual track meet with Pennsylvania State College. The Penn Staters will probably hook up with either Georgetown or Maryland State College later in the season.

The following week the University of Virginia and the Navy will hold their dual games at the Naval Academy on April 12. The affair is an annual engagement. The following week Penn State meets the University of Maryland at the annual Penn relay carnival. Six Washington teams are planning to go to Penn.

State Acts as Host.

Maryland State will act as host in the annual scholastic meet on May 5. Schools from Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia will take part in the affair. On the same date the Georgetown track team will engage Johns Hopkins in a dual meet.

The South Atlantic intercollegiate meet and the Virginia Intercollegiate meet are scheduled for May 12. The S. A. I. events will probably be held in Baltimore, although there is a movement on foot to hold the games here. Virginia colleges gather at Blacksburg, Va., on the same date.

The high schools will have their engagement meet May 12, the annual meet being held between Tech, Central, Western, Eastern, and Business. On the following week some stages its games at Port Deposit. Georgetown and Washington and Lee have arranged a meet for May 19 at Lexington, Va.

## TURNER DEFEATS YOKEL

Latter Weakened by Rough Tactics After Winning First Fall.

When Joe Turner lifted Mike Yokel, of Salt Lake City, from the mat at the Lyceum last night, after they had grappled more than half an hour in the second round of their wrestling match, and banded the visitor's head on the floor, he saved himself from what appeared to be certain defeat, and enabled him to retain the middleweight championship of the world.

Yokel gained the first fall in fifty-five minutes by virtue of plain superiority, a reverse body hold pinning Turner's shoulders to the mat. The Utah wrestler kept the local man on the defensive throughout the first fall and during the second up until the time of the incident mentioned, and it was only through opposing with utmost effort that Turner was spared defeat.

A short time after Turner stood Yokel forcibly on his head, the latter was dumped into a section of the chairs bordering the mat, and this, coupled with Turner's cranium bump tactics, completely dazed him. When he regained the mat after his excursion among the chairs, he was unable to stand straight, and Turner found him easy prey. The second fall was consummated in thirty-eight minutes.

Yokel was carried from the mat after this, and when the ten minutes intermission was up, did not reappear. Turner insisted that the half-unconscious wrestler continue or forfeit the match, and Yokel was brought staggering forward, only to be downed in ten seconds, unable to resist.

GREENLEAF UNBEATEN.

Ralph Greenleaf, boy pocket billiard player extraordinary, did not meet Frank Sherman, former world champion, as planned, at the Royal, during his three days' stay here, but he found little difficulty in disposing of two local cracks substituting for the ill veteran. He defeated Ketchner for the second time last night, 125 to 64, having beaten the latter in the first match Monday, while Tuesday he defeated Bartelme.

## WELSH RILES FANS

Milwaukeeans Demand Investigation of Champion's Bout.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 18.—Fight fans are preparing a petition asking that an investigation be made into the Welsh-Mitchell ring fiasco here Tuesday night. The State Boxing Commissioners will meet next Monday, and they may require Welsh to appear and clear himself of the charge that he faked.

Referee Houlahan may lose his license for not calling the affair no contest. This would have kept Welsh from receiving his end of the purse. Fans are after Houlahan.

Harry Pollok, Welsh's manager, says the champion was sick the night of the bout and narrowly escaped a knockout, but the club physician declares he was in perfect condition.

## YANKS TO TRAVEL IN DE LUXE TRAIN

Thirty-four Players Will Be Tried Out by Bill Donovan This Spring.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Transportation de luxe will feature the jaunt of the Yankees and Braves during their series of exhibition games in Georgia, Alabama, and the two Carolinas as part of their training campaign.

Four Pullman cars will carry the players of the two clubs out of Macon on the night of March 26, and the same cars will be in use when the teams leave Fayetteville, N. C., on April 5 for the journey to St. Louis. It is possible that the game at Fayetteville will be the final contest of the series, though efforts are now being made to book another game.

The Yankees are scheduled to play the National League champions on Saturday, April 7, at Ebbets Field, so the Good Friday exhibition must be played within a night's ride of New York.

Usually a ball team works its way North after finishing its work at the training camp, but the Yankees will work along opposite lines for the first week of their exhibition tour. The Yanks will travel South for several days after arriving in New York.

Not until they reach Columbus, S. C., one week after the first game of the series is played, will Donovan's forces be farther North than Macon.

Where They'll Play.

The list of dates and towns for the Yankee-Braves series is as follows: March 26, Macon, Ga.; March 27, Dublin, Ga.; March 28, Cordele, Ga.; March 29, Albany, Ga.; March 30, Dothan, Ala.; March 31, Moultrie, Ga.; April 1, Waycross, Ga.; Sunday, April 1, no game; April 2, Columbus, S. C.; April 3, Florence, S. C.; April 4, Wilmington, N. C.; April 5, Fayetteville, N. C.; April 6, pending. The Yankees are due in New York on the morning of Saturday, April 7, and are scheduled to play in Brooklyn that afternoon. On Easter Sunday Donovan's team will play Newark, and the next two days will be given to the series with the Robins.

Will Have Thirty-four.

Unless present plans are changed Bill Donovan will have thirty-four players at the Macon training camp. The list, of course, is subject to change and some of the players who are on the ragged edge in holding their places on the team may be cut adrift if they show too great an inclination to do strike duty. Players who put another's quarrel before their own private interests may learn too late that it pays to be sure of a major league berth before getting into a fight with those who pay the salaries.

The players who can be spared, and many may be classed as such, will be the first to feel the effects of the "strike without a grievance," in so far as the major leagues are concerned.

The Yankee squad as made up before the strikers began to show what they were going to do comprised fifteen pitchers, four catchers, eight infielders and seven outfielders. Six pitchers, one catcher, one infielder, and one outfielder have yet to show their skill at the Polo Grounds.

Fifteen Pitchers on List.

The pitching division is made up of Bob Shawkey, Ray Fisher, Ray Caldwell, Nick Cullip, George Mogridge, Slim Love, Allen Russell, and Urban Shocker, of the 1916 team; Bill Pierce, Dan Tippie, and Sam Ross, who were tried out last spring and later released to minor league clubs, and four newcomers, McGraw, of Colorado, the last named from the Richmond club, of the International League. Donovan will be assisted at the training camp by Joe Kelley and Luke Farrell, who have been with the Yankees since Donovan first took charge.

Catchers are Nunamaker, Walters, and Alexander, of the 1916 team, and Ben Shaw, drafted from Macon. The infielders are Pipp, Mullen, Geddon, Baumann, Peckinpaugh, Baker, and Aragon, all veterans, and Knaupp, of Shreveport. The outfielders are High, Gilhooly, Magee, Malzel, Hendryx, Miller, and Bankston, the last named from the Richmond club, of the International League. Donovan will be assisted at the training camp by Joe Kelley and Luke Farrell, who have been with the Yankees since Donovan first took charge.

FAIR SKATERS IN RACE

Quintet of Misses Faces Pedestrian O'Leary Tonight at Rink.

Dan O'Leary, who walked a little more than a mile while Jack Rille was skating two and a half miles at the Coliseum rink last night, will endeavor to do the same distance, fifteen laps around the track, while five girls are skating thirty-five in relay.

The Misses Bearfield, Watson, Purlong, Walwright and Stitz will face him tonight, and the old man probably will have to hustle to win.

VISITS BALTIMORE.

Washington Soccer Club's eleven meets the St. Elizabeth's team at Back river park, in Baltimore, next Sunday. The local soccerists vanquished St. Elizabeth's in a game played here the first of the year, but the Baltimoreans are reported to have been greatly strengthened for Sunday's effort.

## BERT SHOTTON FOR ST. LOUIS BROWNS

Fraternity's Official Representative Opposed to Any Players' Strike.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 18.—Bert Shotton, the Browns' official representative of the Baseball Players' Fraternity, says he will fulfill his contract with the St. Louis club, and will not enter upon any strike, if one is called by Dave Fultz.

Derrill Pratt, from his winter home in St. Petersburg, Fla., announces that he is opposed to any strike, and will report whenever Fielder Jones gives the word.

Dr. Johnny Lavan, the crack short-stop of the Browns, says he is not a member of the Fraternity and never has been. He says he cannot see the wisdom of Fultz's latest action.

George Sisler says he joined the fraternity last season only after being urged, and that he will fulfill his contract with the Browns to the letter.

Inquiries show that of ten members of the Browns, two are for Fultz, one noncommittal and the other averse for the club. Hank Severid, the catcher, was pronounced for the fraternity.

## BOB THAYER'S Sporting Gossip

Are you preparing to join Dave Fultz's strike?

Big leaguers may find it extremely difficult to explain to Mr. Fan, drawing \$20 or \$25 a week for eight or nine hours' work a day, for fifty weeks a year, just where they have any kick coming against conditions that give them from \$2,000 to \$20,000 for playing ball for six months annually, with all transportation and hotel expenses on the road paid for them. Take one case. Allow Walter Johnson drew just \$12,500 last summer and pitched fifty ball games. For each game he was paid \$250. He is a hard worker, and, therefore, is paid less per game than many other pitchers. And what does Mr. Fan think about this whole thing?

How many more times will Mike Dellon for the box office championship?

It is noticeable that the board of directors of the Players' Fraternity contains names of several players either sent back to the bushes, like Josh Devore, or hanging on to the big show by a thread, like Ed Reulbach, Sam Crawford, and Jimmy Arher.

During the recent Federal League fiasco, many of these slow veterans maintained their jobs wholly through the influence they exerted as members of the board of directors. Some of them held up their clubs on this account. John Henry was one of the few who was on the square with his club, and did not attempt to use his position in the fraternity. But maybe after this strike threat passes, there won't be any need of a board of directors.

Now a hockey team is on a strike in New York because two players have been disqualified.

Les Darcy's reception in Philadelphia was anything but warm, though the Australian really tried to make good. However, he was going through light training stunts in a ring where boxers actually perform every week, and so but eighty-six fans turned out to see him. His show is said to have quit, none of the supporting cast having been paid in the eight days it was on the road. Even a boxer has to eat regularly. The sooner Darcy's manager listens to reason, the better it will be for the visitor, whose popularity is rapidly waning.

Fultz is still leading in the talking race with Messrs. Johnson, Tener and company.

They have some real sportsmanship out in Washington University. Already \$5,000 has been pledged to pay the expenses of the varsity eight at the Poughkeepsie regatta next spring. Now the crew has nothing to do but defeat Leland Stanford and California to get the trip and a chance to prove to the East that the college boys on the Coast are made of the real stuff. Six of last year's championship crew are at work. Coach Conbar has four eights seated, and everything is progressing favorably.

If wishes were gasoline we all might ride.

Capt. Jack Williams, of the Palace duckpin team, is responsible for the statement that a handicap system should be enforced in the District Duckpin Association's tournament next spring. Teams all over the country, says Williams, are competing under handicap systems, which, according to him, are benefiting the game. Let it be said, and there are many who coincide, that handicaps in tournaments such as that of the District Association is not the proper idea at all. Bowlers will roll in any event with the hope of winning prize money. They will put every bit of skill they command into their rolling. If a mediocre bowler is placed on even terms with a skilled one, what is the advantage of possessing skill?

## DARCY A FROST

Crowd Falls to Turn Out and He Is Hooted on Street.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 18.—Eighty-six deluded folks filed from the Olympia last night, satisfied that Les Darcy would have to go to work, if he would make any money in the United States. The best thing about the Darcy show was the piano playing.

The Australian skipped the rope, a thrilling sight, and boxed three one-minute rounds with Fred Gilmore, a Chicago middleweight of no class. The rest of the show was on a par with the feature act.

After leaving the building a crowd of boys more than a hundred in number followed him to his hotel. All sorts of queries and taunts were hurled at the Australian. One youngster made bold enough to yell, "You're a cheese champion, you big slacker!"

## UMPIRE IS SOUGHT FOR COLLEGE GAME

George Washington - Georgetown Affair Saturday Attracts Interest.

It is fairly certain that Jim Collier, coach of the Navy team, will referee the George Washington-Georgetown basketball game set for Saturday night at 8:30 o'clock. Just what will umpire the contest is problematic.

Those who are on the inside will just have had the benefit of the basketball rules meeting, and a discussion by Dr. Joseph Raycroft, member of the rules committee, at a meeting of officials and coaches.

Manager Darcy, of George Washington, has yet to announce the selection of an umpire. Several local officials have been mentioned, but no choice has been made.

Georgetown Wins.

Georgetown slipped out of town day before yesterday and handed Mount St. Joseph's a 36 to 25 licking. The Hilltoppers played in Baltimore, and succeeded in getting ahead in the second half, out-corking a series of brilliant rallies which resulted in clever shots from the floor.

It was Georgetown's fourth straight win of the season, and showed considerable improvement over the last performance on the Hilltop.

G. W. U. Works Hard.

George Washington is working hard for the Saturday night game. Coach George Collier will probably select Almon and Giacomo, Patterson and Hillis and Groesbeck. The Hatchettes have worked up a good passing game, but must rely almost wholly upon Almon to do the scoring.

Georgetown on the other hand has an array of shooters said to rank with the best in this section of the country. There is every indication that one of the biggest crowds in the history of the sport here will be on hand for the engagement.

## WINS ANOTHER GAME

Army-Navy Preps Vanquish Eastern in One-Sided Floor Game.

Army and Navy Preps downed another high school team yesterday. The Preps swamped Eastern by 27 to 6, having no trouble in getting way ahead of the Easterners who had played a hard game the previous day and were weakened by the loss of two of its best players.

The Preps have defeated Western, Tech, and Eastern, and are beginning to lay claim to the scholastic title. Baker, Cassell, Aragon, Gilmartin, Linke, and Kelm had too much on the Easterners yesterday.

Tech walked all over St. Albans yesterday by a score of 38 to 13. The St. Albans youngsters have played few games and put up a creditable showing against Tech's more experienced five.

Central won a practice game from the Epiphany Church team, Giacomo, Giblin, and Selden, of the George Washington quint played for Epiphany. The score was 30 to 21 in favor of Central. Promise is held out that Business will be given a run for the Friday game.

## MANN WON'T SIGN

Cubs' Outfielder Doesn't Like Salary Cut Offered Him.

CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—The cut in Cub salaries appears more general than was at first anticipated. Today Leslie Mann's unsigned contract arrived at President Weeghman's office. A letter accompanied it, saying that Mann would quit the game rather than take the cut offered him. Mann is a former Fed, and was playing under a war-time contract last season.

Any Cub player who does not report when the Cubs' special leaves for California, February 20, will be out of a job for the season, strike or no strike.

This is President Weeghman's ultimatum to the holdout of the Fraternity players. Sixteen of the thirty-five players on Mitchell's roster are Fraternity members.

## MISKE WILL REST

Injured Hand Keeps Him From New Orleans Contest.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 18.—Billy Miske, the latest light heavyweight whirlwind, cannot appear here in a twenty-round bout with Jack Dillon. He injured one of his hands Tuesday night against Dillon's head and will take a rest. His manager, Pearl Smith, has notified the local club. Battling Levinaky has been substituted.

Dominick Tortorich, the local pro, is seeking to stage a twenty-round bout between Ritchie Mitchell and Fred Walsh, the lightweight champion, during Mardi Gras week, February 15 to 20.

## LAFAYETTE GAINS IN MASONIC RACE

One Game Behind Leading Stansbury Quint After Clean Sweep Victory.

Next to the race among the Continentals, Royals and Grand Centrals in the District League, the struggle in the Masonic circuit, with Stansbury, Lafayette and Columbia as the contenders, is attracting more attention than any other duckpin pennant chase in the city.

These three teams, with top honors for Washington's biggest bowling organization at stake, are rolling scores that rank second only to those averaged by the trio of crack District League quints, and the contest is waxing closer with each succeeding match.

Last night Lafayette won three games from the King David team, and landed within one game of Stansbury, which holds the lead that Lafayette lost recently by dropping a set to Columbia.

Columbia is now third, one game behind Lafayette. The standing of the first three teams follows:

	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Stansbury.....	51	12	.810
Lafayette.....	50	13	.794
Columbia.....	49	14	.778

Lafayette found King David an easy victim, winning each game by a big margin. Barber, Lafayette, anchor, was the best performer of the match, with scores of 116, 94 and 125.

Tom Keane's Grand Centrals dropped the first game to the Columbians in the National Capital League by five pins, 555 to 550, but overwhelmed the printers in the other two games, and wound up with a total of 1,700 even. The Grand Central scores were 555, 568 and 562. Johnny Veach, Nick Chacona and Tom Mayhew, of the Grand Centrals, showed they are in good shape for the match tonight with the Continentals in the District League by getting sets well above 300.

Veach was the only bowler to roll more than 140 for a game, John Meany, of Hiram, in the Masonic League, having the next best score, 135.

## AWARDS FOOTBALLS

Pennsylvania Varsity Players Will Sport Gold Ones.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 18.—The football committee at the University of Pennsylvania has awarded seven gold footballs to the members of this year's Cornell conquerors. Wharton Sinkler, chairman of the football committee, announced the names of the gridironists yesterday afternoon. The board of governors had already appropriated the sum necessary to purchase these tokens of the Quakers' prowess on the gridiron during the 1916 season.

The men who received these footballs were Captain Matthews, Captain Miller, L. Wray, Henning, Entwistle, Little, Urichart, Bell, Light, Derr, Berry, Quigley, Bryson, Williams, A. Wray, and C. Lovett, manager.

Coach Bob Folwell has not yet returned from California, where he has been on a hunting trip, with Andy Smith, the University of California football coach and former Pennsylvania star. The matter of taking up Folwell's contract for next season was going forward to prove to the Americans from the West. There is little doubt but that Folwell will be offered a contract which will run for more than one year.

SMITH AFTER DARCY

Bayonne Boxer Will Tackle Australian for Nothing.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Jeff Smith, the Bayonne, N. J., middleweight, who stopped Les Darcy in five rounds in Australia, is out today with an offer to meet the Antipodean and not take a cent for the task.

"As long as I'm willing to box him for nothing," says Smith, "the slacker has a chance to show his true colors by donating the receipts to some British hospital. I want to prove to the American public that I made him turn tail in his own country. Why, he refused to get out of his corner, and was counted out by Snowdy Baker, sitting on his chair and grinning."

## ROBINSON WILL GO